

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend paragraph [0004] as follows:

[0004] A method includes associating ~~overlapping~~ areas of a touch interface of a mobile electronic device with letters such that each area is associated with only one letter and at least some of the associated areas overlap with one another. The method also includes detecting a location of a user's touch on the touch interface. For each area of the touch interface which includes the location, the letter associated therewith is identified.

Please amend paragraph [0006] as follows:

[0006] A mobile electronic device may include one or more touch interfaces to receive a touch by a user, means for displaying one or more rows of letters, and means for associating ~~overlapping~~ areas of the one or more touch interfaces with the letters such that each area is associated with only one letter and at least some of the associated areas overlap with one another. The mobile electronic device may also include a microprocessor. The microprocessor may identify which letters are associated with areas of the touch interfaces that include a location of the touch. The microprocessor may also execute a predictive text software module to determine which of the identified letters the user intended to select.

Please amend the third and fifth lines of paragraph [0037] as follows:

[0037] The touchpads of FIG. 1 may be designed so that the area of a virtual key (e.g. the area of the touchpad associated with a particular letter) is of an appropriate ergonomic size, shape and orientation for use by a finger or thumb. If $[\square]\Delta$ denotes the minimum horizontal length of a virtual key based on ergonomic considerations, then the overall horizontal length of a touchpad need not exceed $(n+1)[\square]\Delta/2$, where n is the number of letters in the touchpad. In the example of device 100 shown in FIG. 1, n is

10 for the top touchpad, n is 9 for the middle touchpad and n is 7 for the bottom touchpad.

Please amend the third and fifth lines of paragraph [0038] as follows:

[0038] Similarly, the touchscreen of FIG. 2 may be designed so that the area of a virtual key is of an appropriate ergonomic size, shape and orientation for use by a finger or thumb. If $[\square]\Delta$ denotes the minimum horizontal length of a virtual key based on ergonomic considerations, then the overall horizontal length of a touchscreen need not exceed $(n+1)[\square]\Delta/2$, where n is the number of letters in the row of the touchscreen having the most letters. In the example of device 200 shown in FIG. 2, n is 10, since the top row has the most letters.

Please amend the fifth and eighth lines of paragraph [0039] as follows:

[0039] In contrast, if each touch of the touchpad/touchscreen were to select only a single letter, then the areas of the virtual keys would not be permitted to overlap and the overall horizontal length of the touchpad/touchscreen would have to be sufficient to accommodate this restriction while providing virtual key areas of an appropriate size for use by a finger or thumb. If $[\square]\Delta$ denotes the minimum horizontal length of a virtual key based on ergonomic considerations, then the overall horizontal length of a touchpad/touchscreen having virtual keys that are not permitted to overlap would need to be at least $n[\square]\Delta$, where n is the number of letters in the touchpad or the number of letters in the row of the touchscreen having the most letters.

Please amend the first and third lines of paragraph [0045] as follows:

[0045] If $[\square]\Delta$ denotes the minimum horizontal length of a virtual key based on ergonomic considerations, then the overall horizontal length of a touchpad/touchscreen may be larger than $(n+1)[\square]\Delta/2$ but less than $n[\square]\Delta$, where n is the number of letters in the touchpad or the number of letters in the row of the touchscreen having the most

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letters. The actual overall horizontal length will depend upon the extent of overlap of the areas of the virtual keys.